

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01 FEA-01 AID-05

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 IO-11

L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-06 SS-15 SP-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, JA

SUBJECT:FIRST MEETING OF USG/GOJ JOINT PLANNING AND
COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

REF: TOKYO 0328

1. FOLLOWING LETTER WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO JAPANESE EMBASSY
WASHINGTON OPENING OF BUSINESS JANUARY 12:

DEAR MR. MINISTER: (NISHIDA, JAPANESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON)

WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR AUTHORITIES HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST
IN CONVENING ON FEBRUARY 25-27, 1976, IN WASHINGTON THE
INITIAL MEETING OF THE JOINT PLANNING AND COORDINATION
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COMMITTEE PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 2 OF THE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. WHEN THIS SUGGESTION WAS SUBMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES CO-CHAIRMEN FOR THE VARIOUS PROJECT AREAS, THEY ENTHUSIASTICALLY WELCOMED THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE PRESENT STATUS OF ACTIVITY IN EACH OF THE NINE AREAS AND TO PLAN FOR THEIR FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OVER THE COMING YEAR.

ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT, AND IN CONSULTATION WITH CHAIRMAN PETERSON OF THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ADMINISTRATOR TRAIN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, I WOULD PROPOSE THAT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JOINT PLANNING AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 25-27, 1976, IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING WOULD BE TO HOLD A FULL FLEDGED REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS OF WORK UNDER THE CURRENT NINE ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT AREAS, DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC PLANS AND DECISIONS CONCERNING THEIR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS, AND TABLING OF ANY NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE. IN LINE WITH THE TECHNICAL ORIENTATION OF THE MEETING, WE WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY ALL OUR PROJECT CHAIRMEN, FIVE OF WHOM WOULD NEED TO COME TO WASHINGTON FROM FAR DISTANT PLACES IN THE UNITED STATES.

UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD HOPE THAT IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS MEETING AS FRUITFUL AS POSSIBLE THE JAPANESE DELEGATION WOULD BE SIMILARLY CONSTITUTED, AND WOULD INCLUDE EITHER YOUR CO-CHAIRMEN OR THEIR EXPERT TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WHO COULD ADDRESS THE SUBSTANTIVE CONTENTS OF THE PROJECTS AND COULD MAKE DECISIONS CONCERNING THEIR FUTURE ORIENTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION. WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY WISH TO HAVE YOUR EARLIEST CONFIRMATION OF THIS, SO THAT WE CAN FINALIZE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUR PROJECT LEADERS TO PREPARE THEMSELVES TECHNICALLY FOR THE WASHINGTON MEETING.

I SHOULD APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR EARLIEST CONFIRMATION THAT THE MEETING WOULD BE CONSTITUTED AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.
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SINCERELY,

LINDSEY GRANT
ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
ENVIRONMENTAL AND POPULATION AFFAIRS

2. FOR EMBASSY: EMBASSY SHOULD DISCUSS ABOVE TEXT WITH

APPROPRIATE GOJ OFFICIALS. MEETING WILL POSE SOME LOGISTIC DIFFICULTIES FOR EPA AND CEQ, BUT US AGENCIES ARE EAGER TO PROCEED WITH TECHNICAL MEETING. IF JAPANESE INTENTION IS NOT TO INVOLVE TECHNICAL EXPERTS, US AGENCIES WOULD PREFER TO POSTPONE THE MEETING UNTIL JAPANESE EXPERTS ARE AVAILABLE. BOTH PETERSON AND TRAIN HAVE INDICATED THEIR READINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN FEBRUARY MEETING, BUT EMPHASIS IS ON TECHNICAL EXPERTS.

3. COMMENT: US RECEIVED INSUFFICIENT ADVANCE NOTICE, AND NEEDS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF JAPANESE INTENTIONS BY NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO CONDUCT PROPER MEETING. JAPANESE CONTACT IN WASHINGTON HAS PROVEN TO BE AN INADEQUATE CHANNEL FOR REACHING THIS UNDERSTANDING. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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